

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 097648

46

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ IMS: WBGRANT: CCH

5/21/73 EXT 23590

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HUMMEL

S/ S - MR. BARNES

WHITE HOUSE - MRS. DAVIS (SUBS)

----- 130697

R 221412 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 097648

EXDIS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MASS, ID

SUBJ: SUHARTO REQUEST TO PRESIDENT FOR ADDITIONAL
DESTROYER ESCORT

REF: STATE 095102

1. IN ADDITION TO CALLS REPORTED REFTEL, GENERAL HASNAN HABIB MET WITH GENERAL SCOWCROFT AT NSC ON MAY 15. DURING MEETING HASNAN HANDED SCOWCROFT LETTER FROM PRESIDENT SUHARTO TO PRESIDENT NIXON. TEXT FOLLOWS:

" A FEW MONTHS AGO I HAD THE PLEASURE AND PRIVILEGE OF RECEIVING YOUR DISTINGUISHED VICE PRESIDENT, MR. SPIRO AGNEW, HERE IN JAKARTA AND THE CORDIAL TALKS WE HAD I CONSIDER AS HAVING BEEN MOST FRUITFUL. DURING HIS VERY BRIEF VISIT TO JAKARTA, THE MATTER OF AN INCREASE IN THE MILITARY AID PROGRAM TO IMPROVE INDONESIA' S CAPABILITY TO CONDUCT MORE EFFECTIVE NAVAL OPERATIONS, WAS RAISED.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 097648

THE INDONESIAN ARCHIPELAGO' S UNIQUE GEOSTRATEGIC POSITION AND GEOGRAPHICAL CONDITION, THE CONSIDERABLE TOTAL LENGTH OF ITS COAST LINES AND THE VASTNESS OF THE SEAS WITHIN, ACCOMMODATING CONSIDERABLE INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDING AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ILLEGAL SAILINGS OF VARIOUS INTENTION,

MAKE ENFORCEMENT OF INTENSIVE MARITIME SURVEILLANCE A NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF HIGH PRIORITY, NEEDING A GREAT NUMBER AND VARIETY OF MARITIME PATROL CRAFT. THE SHORTAGE OF SUCH NAVAL EQUIPMENT DENIES US THE ABILITY TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH NUMEROUS SECURITY PROBLEMS ARISING IN THESE WATERS, NOT ONLY IN THE " PURE" MILITARY SENSE, BUT ALSO AND IN PARTICULAR, IN TERMS OF SAFEGUARDING OUR MARITIME RESOURCES AGAINST LARGE- SCALE PILLAGING, SMUGGLING, AND OTHER UNLAWFUL BEHAVIOR OF THAT NATURE. AS YOU MAY APPRECIATE, THIS SITUATION IS GIVING ME SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

I AM THEREFORE PARTICULARLY PLEASED AND GRATIFIED TO NOTE THE RECENT PROCUREMENT OF THE DESTROYER ESCORT 1034 USS JOHN R. PERRY, SUBSEQUENTLY RENAMED RI. SAMADIKUN AFTER ITS TRANSFER TO THE INDONESIAN NAVY LAST FEBRUARY 20 TH IN PEARL HARBOR. THE PROVISION OF THIS SHIP OF THE CLAUD- JONES CLASS HAS MADE A MOST NEEDED CONTRIBUTION TO OUR MARITIME PATROLLING CAPABILITY, PRESENTLY BEING THE PRIMARY NAVAL TASK OF THE INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES. IT WILL ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE ADDITIONAL MEANS TO CONDUCT A BROADER SPECTRUM OF SEA TRAINING PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE SKILL AND PROFICIENCY OF SEA GOING NAVAL PERSONNEL. FURTHERMORE THE ADDITION OF A SHIP OF THIS TYPE WILL MOST CERTAINLY GENERATE A GREAT MORAL BOOST, NEEDED TO ENCOUNTER THE DEPRESSING INFLUENCE CAUSED BY THE INCREASING DISPOSAL RATE OF THE INDONESIAN NAVY' S CAPITAL SHIPS.

REFERRING TO THE EARLIER MENTIONED TALKS, I FEEL STRONGLY MOTIVATED AND ENCOURAGED TO FURTHER EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF PROCURING THREE MORE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 097648

DESTROYER ESCORTS OF THE CLAUD JONES CLASS UNDER SIMILAR TERMS AS APPLIED TO THE TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS OF THE FORMER USS JOHN R. PERRY 1034; I FULLY REALIZE THAT ANY MAJOR CHANGE IN THE MILITARY AID PROGRAM HAS ITS CONSEQUENCES. I CAN ASSURE YOU HOWEVER THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION WHATEVER TO CAUSE YOU INCONVENIENCE IN ANY WAY.

HAVING MADE THE PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER KNOWN, I AM
HOPEFUL THAT YOU COULD GRANT ME THE RECOGNITION OF
MY REQUEST FOR YOUR KIND AND FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION
OF SUCH A SHORT TERM EXPANSION SCHEME TO BE
INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT MILITARY AID PROGRAM FOR
INDONESIA. THE IMMENSE BOOST TO THE INDONESIAN

MARITIME PATROL STRENGTH AND THE ADDITION OF ANTI
SUBMARINE CAPABILITIES THESE SHIPS ALSO PROVIDE,
WILL UNDOUBTEDLY EASE THE NAVAL TASKS AND COMMITMENTS
INDONESIA IS NOW FACING.

CONCERNING THE MILITARY AID PROGRAM FOR INDONESIA
I WISH TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY
HIGHEST APPRECIATION AND THAT OF THE INDONESIAN
ARMED FORCES FOR THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE YOUR
GOVERNMENT HAS SO FAR PROVIDED. PLEASE FEEL
ASSURED THAT ALL EQUIPMENT RECEIVED THROUGH THIS
PROGRAM ARE PUT TO USE IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY
SO AS TO INCREASE AND IMPROVE THE OVERALL MILITARY
POSTURE OF THE SERVICES.

FINALLY I WISH TO REAFFIRM TO YOU MY SINCERE FEELINGS
OF RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP AND
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE097648
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WBGRANT: CCH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730551/aaaajpgo.tel
Line Count: 140
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 STATE 095102
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 21 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980226
Subject: SUHARTO REQUEST TO PRESIDENT FOR ADDITIONAL DESTROYER ESCORT
TAGS: MARR, MASS, ID
To: CINCPAC
JAKARTA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005